

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Lang et al.

Application No.: 10/681,749

Group No.: 3733

Filed: October 7, 2003

Examiner: Philogene, Pedro

For: Minimally Invasive Joint Implant with 3-Dimensional Geometry Matching the Articular Surfaces

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION
OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))**

**TIME OF TRANSMITTAL OF ACCOMPANYING
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

1. The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this national application or the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in Section 1.491 in an international application or after the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurred last but *before* the mailing date of either

(1) a final action under § 1.113 or

(2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311

whichever occurs first.

FEE

2. Accompanying this transmittal is the fee for submission of an information disclosure statement under section 1.97(c). (\$180.00)

FEE PAYMENT

3. Applicant elects the option to pay the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(c) (\$180.00).

Fee due \$180.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FEE

4. Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 19-4972.
- Charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4972.

DATE: December 14, 2009

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant:

- (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application;*
- (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in section 1.491 in an international application; or*
- (3) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last." 37 C.F.R. section 1.97(b).*

NOTE: "Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section." 37 C.F.R. section 1.56(a).

"Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) each inventor named in the application;*
- (2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and*
- (3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 C.F.R. section 1.56(c).*

NOTE: The "duty as described in section 1.56 will be met so long as the information in question was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by sections 1.97(b) - (d) and 1.98 before issuance of the patent." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25 at 17.

WARNING: "No information disclosure statement may be filed in a provisional application." 37 C.F.R. section 1.51(b).

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

(check sections forming a part of this statement: discard unused sections and number pages consecutively)

1. ☒ Preliminary Statements
2. ☒ Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (substitute for Form PTO-1449)
3. ☐ Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
4. ☐ Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted
5. ☐ Cumulative Patents or Publications
6. ☒ Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
7. ☐ Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items
 - 7A. ☐ EPO Search Report
 - 7B. ☐ English Language Version of EPO Search Report
8. ☐ Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
9. ☐ Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)
10. ☒ Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

(complete the following, if appropriate)

Sections _____, respectively, have been continued on ADDED PAGE(S).

NOTE : "Once the minimum requirements are met, the examiner has an obligation to consider the information." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 37).

Section 1. Preliminary statements

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. section 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

SECTION 2. FORMS PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449)**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Lang et al. Attorney Docket: 2960/112
Serial No: 10/681,749 Art Group Unit: 3733
Date Filed: October 7, 2003 Examiner Name: Philogene, Pedro
Invention: Minimally Invasive Joint Implant with 3-Dimensional Geometry Matching the Articular Surfaces

**LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR
APPLICANT'S SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Reference Number	Document Number	Issue Date	Inventor	Class/Subclass
	VP	US 3,852,830	Dec., 1974	Marmor	623/20.3
	VQ	US 5,423,828	Jun., 1995	Benson	606/102
	VR	US 5,690,635	Nov., 1997	Matsen et al.	606/88

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Reference Number	Document Number	Issue Date	Inventor	Class/Subclass
	VS	US 2002/0111694	Aug., 2002	Ellingsen et al.	623/23.57

Examiner Signature: _____

Date Considered: _____

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation *if not* in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. section 1.98(a)(2) requires that any information disclosure statement filed under section 1.97 shall include: "A legible copy of: (i) Each foreign patent; (ii) Each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed, other than U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications unless required by the Office; (iii) For each cited pending unpublished U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed including any claims directed to that portion; and (iv) All other information or that portion which caused it to be listed."

Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (substitute for Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement.

(complete the following, if applicable)

☒ Exception(s) to above:

Copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not included, as the Office has not required them.

Copies of cited pending unpublished U.S. applications that are available in the USPTO's IFW system are not included. See *Waiver of the Copy Requirement in 37 CFR 1.98 for Cited Pending U.S. Patent Applications*, 1287 O.G. 163 (Oct. 19, 2004).

☐ Items in prior application, from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application, as identified in Section 4.

☐ Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.

Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

The person making this certification is

(check each applicable item)

- (a) ☐ the inventor(s) who signs below

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

(type name of inventor who is signing)

- (b) ☐ an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. section 1.56(c))

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

(type name of inventor who is signing)

- (c) ☒ the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information:

(check each applicable item)

☐ supplied by the inventor(s).

☐ supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application. (37 C.F.R. section 1.56(c)).

☒ in the practitioner's file.

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Alexander J. Smolenski, Jr., Esq.

(type or print name of practitioner)

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